

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~ VENONA

25X1

[Redacted]

Reissue (T529)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No: 1088-1090

30 July 1944

[Part I] To SEMEN[i].

[C% As a result] [2 groups unrecovered] West Coast and [2 groups unrecovered] VITALIJ[ii] it has been established:

1. The organization

[58 groups unrecoverable]

VOVChEK's[iii] reports have been received [4 groups unrecovered] VITALIJ's concern, displayed in the opinion

[14 groups unrecovered]

seven months. During his stay and work on the ship RODINA in July of this year V.[iv] [B% received] from the captain of the ship an illegal payment [3 groups unrecovered] wages for the duration of his stay [C% with friends in Canada] [4 groups unrecovered] on shore. Unconcealed affairs with women have created around V. an atmosphere of gossip and have undermined his authority in the local apparatus and the agent network [AGENTURA] connected with it. On his side this has caused irritability, rudeness and strained relations with those around him. All this has led to exceptional slackness in operational work:

a) Contact with the ship agent network [SUDOAGENTURA] was not established on all vessels. The guarding of the ships and investigating of obvious cases of sabotage were not carried out. V. did not know how many ships and which were in port or were expected in PORTLAND or SEATTLE. The reports for

[Part II] the agent network for the most part came in haphazardly.

b) V. did not control the work of the group leaders [8 groups unrecovered] time liaison was not established with the ship agent network.

c) He did not take steps to investigate the sabotage on the ship KOMILES.

d) [7 groups unrecovered] did not take steps to ascertain the circumstances of sabotage on the ship ODESSA.

e) The serious fact of the loss of the ship IL'ICH he did not relate [C% although this affair came to the knowledge of the Center].

f) Contact with

[15 groups unrecovered]

port of VANCOUVER [2 groups unrecovered] the ship P. VINOGRADOV.

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The resulting position of V. is not serious; according to all information his absentmindedness regarding cover and his desire to leave PORTLAND for home or [8 groups unrecoverable] to recall from PORTLAND, although first having sent [B% instructions] to replace [him] which could be [3 groups unrecovered] work on the West Coast. In our opinion a suitable candidate is Viktor Vasil'evich S. Since V.'s conduct is a result of both of the prolonged absence of his family and the [D% lack]

[16 groups unrecovered]

Russian agent network on shore and on Soviet ships. For the time being I have taken the following steps:

[Part III]1. At numerous meetings with V. the way to fulfill the tasks set by you has been sketched out. At the same time steps have been taken to release V. as much as possible from work connected with his cover by using as a roof [KRYShA] VOVChEK who is his superior. The latter considers essential the control or reorganization of the method of work along the whole coast in our interests and the inclusion of himself in our work with V.

2. [11 groups unrecovered]

IGOR'[v], VLADISLAV[vi], VOVChEK, ALEKSANDR[vii] and the probationers [STAZhERY] ChEKhOV[viii] and ANCHOR [YaKOR'][ix].

3. A preliminary investigation into the circumstances of the sinking of the ship IL'ICh has been completed.

In LOS ANGELES I met PETR[x] whom I instructed on the reorganization of the work in BABYLON [VAVILON][xi] where he is finally going to the post of deputy ship repair engineer on the West Coast. On the day of the meeting PETR had no agent network in his charge. [3 groups unrecovered]

No.606

MAY[MAJ][xii], AKIM[xiii]

Indicate the shortcomings in my telegram.

BORIS[xiv]

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Comments: [i] SEMEN: Unidentified cover-name.

[ii] VITALIJ: Pavel Kuzmich REVIZOROV.

[iii] VOVChEK: Probably Aleksandr Pavlovich BOChEK.

[iv] V.: i.e. VITALIJ.

[v] IGOR': Unidentified cover-name.

[vi] VLADISLAV: Nikolaj Grigor'evich REDIN.

[vii] ALEKSANDR: Unidentified cover-name.

[viii] ChEKhOV: Unidentified cover-name.

[ix] ANCHOR: Unidentified cover-name.

[x] PETR: Aleksandr Petrovich GRACHEV.

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[xi] BABYLON: San Francisco.

[xii] MAY: Stepan APRESYaN.

[xiii] AKIM: Serej Grigor'evich LUK'YANOV.

[xiv] BORIS: Aleksandr Pavlovich SAPRYKIN, MGB cipher clerk  
in New York.

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